

Amendments to and Listing of the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 10, and 14 as indicated below, wherein strikethrough indicates deletion and underlining indicates addition. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) An organic electroluminescent device, comprising:
 - a substrate;
 - electrodes including a first electrode formed on the substrate, and a second electrode disposed to be spaced from the first electrode;
 - a function layer formed between the electrodes, said function layer comprising a carrier injection layer, a carrier transport layer and a luminous layer; and
 - a buffer layer in contact with said second electrode and disposed between said second electrode and a protective film layer, ~~said buffer layer having a density lower than the density of said luminous layer and said second electrode.~~
2. (Original) The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 1, wherein the buffer layer is formed in a distance of 20 nm or less from an upper end surface of the function layer.
3. (Original) The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 1, wherein the buffer layer contains an oxide.
4. (Original) The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 1, wherein the buffer layer contains aluminum oxide.
5. (Previously presented) The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 1, further comprising:
 - a thin layer contiguous with the function layer and containing any of an alkaline metal element and an alkaline earth metal element, said thin layer having a thickness of approximately 0.5 nm.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) An organic electroluminescent display apparatus including a plurality of organic electroluminescent devices formed on a substrate, wherein the organic electroluminescent device includes:

electrodes including a first electrode adjacent to the substrate and a second electrode disposed to be spaced from the first electrode, said second electrode comprised of an upper electrode layer and a lower electrode layer;

a function layer formed between the electrodes, said function layer comprising a carrier injection layer, a carrier transport layer and a luminous layer; and

a buffer layer in contact with the second electrode and disposed between said upper electrode layer and said lower electrode layer, ~~said buffer layer having a density lower than the density of said luminous layer and said second electrode.~~

11. (Original) The organic electroluminescent display apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the buffer layer is formed in a distance of 20 nm or less from an upper end surface of the function layer.

12. (Original) The organic electroluminescent display apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the buffer layer contains an oxide.

13. (Original) The organic electroluminescent display apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the buffer layer contains aluminum oxide.

14. (Currently amended) The organic electroluminescent display apparatus according to claim 10, further comprising:

a thin layer contiguous with the function layer and containing any of an alkaline metal element and an alkaline earth metal element, said thin layer having a thickness of approximately 0.5 nm.